AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1.-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method of purifying a crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition, comprising:

contacting the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition with a catalyst composite comprising

an extruded activated carbonaceous material comprising a first set of pores having a pore diameter between 40 Å and 100 Å with a porosity ~~of~~ between at minimum about 0.15 cc/g and at maximum about 0.25cc/g, and a second set of pores having a pore diameter between 5,000 Å and 20,000 Å with a porosity of at minimum about 0.3 cc/g and at maximum about 0.6 cc/g; and

palladium.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 17, wherein the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition comprises terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid and 2,6-naphthalene dicarboxylic acid.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 17, wherein the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition comprises terephthalic acid and at least one of undesirable coloring components and 4-carboxy benzaldehyde.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 17, wherein the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition is contacted with the catalyst composite at a temperature from about 100°C to about 350°C under a pressure from about 150 psig to about 1,600 psig.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of purifying a crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition, comprising:

contacting the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition with a catalyst composite comprising~~:~~

an extruded activated carbonaceous material having pores and wherein at minimum about 40% of total Hg porosity occurs in pores having a diameter ~~of about~~ between 200 Å and ~~larger~~ 1000 Å, and at minimum 34% of total Hg porosity occurs in pores having a diameter of 5,000 Å and larger; and

a metal catalyst comprising palladium.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition comprises terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid and 2,6-naphthalene dicarboxylic acid.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition comprises terephthalic acid and at least one of undesirable coloring components and 4-carboxy benzaldehyde.

24. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition is contacted with the catalyst composite at a temperature from about 100°C to about 350°C under a pressure from about 150 psig to about 1,600 psig.

25.-28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the catalyst composite comprises about 70% by weight or more and about 99.99% by weight or less of the extruded activated carbonaceous material and about 0.01% by weight or more and about 30% by weight or less of the metal catalyst.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein the catalyst composite comprises about 70% by weight or more and about 99.99% by weight or less of the extruded activated carbonaceous material and about 0.01% by weight or more and about 30% by weight or less of the metal catalyst.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) A method of purifying a crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition, comprising:

contacting the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition with a catalyst composite comprising

an extruded catalyst support comprising an extruded activated carbonaceous material having pores and wherein at minimum about 38% of total Hg porosity occurs in pores having a diameter of about 1,000 Å and larger, or at minimum 34% of total Hg porosity occurs in pores having a diameter of 5,000 Å and larger in the extruded activated carbonaceous material; and

a metal catalyst comprising palladium.

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the catalyst composite comprises about 70% by weight or more and about 99.99% by weight or less of the extruded activated carbonaceous material and about 0.01% by weight or more and about 30% by weight or less of the metal catalyst.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition comprises terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid and 2,6-naphthalene dicarboxylic acid.

37. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition comprises terephthalic acid and at least one of undesirable coloring components and 4-carboxy benzaldehyde.

38. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the crude polycarboxylic aromatic acid composition is contacted with the catalyst composite at a temperature from about 100°C to about 350°C under a pressure from about 150 psig to about 1,600 psig.

39. (Canceled)